



PROJECT: Weed Street, Cook County, Illinois

AUTHORITY: WRDA 1996

TYPE: Continuing Authority, Section 206 Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project includes stabilizing the riverbank, restoring native species, and improving fish habitat at the Weed Street site along the Chicago River. The Weed Street site is located in the 1000 west block of Weed Street in Chicago. The project site is 66 linear feet in length, encompassing the riverbank and approximately 65 feet inland from the top of bank. Approximately 66 feet of new steel sheet pile will be constructed about two feet in front of the existing retaining wall and filled in. The entire area above the retaining wall will be re-graded to create a gentler slope to allow for establishment of stabilizing vegetation. Invasive and non-native species will be removed concurrently with bank re-grading. The re-graded slopes will be stabilized with appropriate native plant communities. Fish habitat structures including lunger boxes are incorporated into the project design. An additional project feature at this site is managing public access to protect the banks and restore the vegetation. A path and overlook will be construction where appropriate to permit continued access to the site while preventing damage to the riverbank and the restored wetlands.

CURRENT STATUS: The Preliminary Restoration Plan approved in September 1999, the Ecosystem Restoration Report approved in October 1999 the Project Cooperation Agreement signed October 1999.

PLANNED WORK:

FY 01

Complete plans and specifications, and complete 100% construction.

PROJECT COST:

Federal Cost	\$399,000
Non-Federal Cost	\$215,000
Total Cost	\$614,000

BENEFITS: The project will correct erosion problems, restore native plant species, improve fish habitat and manage public access through the project area. Restoration will improve water quality and enhance habitat for aquatic and terrestrial resources.

LOCAL SPONSORS: The City of Chicago is the Local Sponsor.

ISSUES/CONCERNS: None

PROJECT MANAGER: Kirston Buczak